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PATENT APPLICATION  
DOCKET NO. 0313.MATH.CN1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Paul R. Mathewson

SERIAL NO.: 09/664,462

FILED: September 18, 2000

FOR: VARIABLY ADJUSTABLE BI-DIRECTIONAL DEROTATION BRACING SYSTEM

ART UNIT:

EXAMINER:

DOCKET NO.: 0313.MATH.CN1

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 on the date indicated below and is addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

*Julie K. Morris*  
Julie K. Morris

*9-21-02*  
Date of Deposit

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Box: DD  
Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please find, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(1), the enclosed Form PTO-1449 which contains a list of all patents, publications, or other items that have come to the attention of one or more of the individuals designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c). Applicant respectfully submits that this Information Disclosure Statement is filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b)(1), within three months of the filing date of the application and requests that the references cited in the enclosed form PTO-1449 be made of record in the above-captioned application. While no representation is made

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September 21, 2000  
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that any of these references may be "prior art" within the meaning of that term under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 or 103, the enclosed list of references is disclosed so as to fully comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

Moreover, while no representation is made that a specific search of office files or patent office records has been conducted or that no better art exists, the undersigned attorney of record believes that the references listed, together with any other references which may have been previously submitted or listed, are the closest to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) of which the undersigned is presently aware, and no art which is closer to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) has been knowingly withheld.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, a copy of each listed reference (or relevant portion thereof) which was not previously submitted to, or cited by, the Patent Office is also enclosed.

All listed references are either in the English language or are accompanied by a translation into English, the concise explanation of relevance as required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3), being as follows:

Japanese No. 8-196562

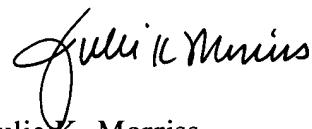
Discloses a brace for stabilizing digits (fingers or toes) relative to a hand or foot by providing a wrist - or foot - encircling band and a digit-encircling band coupled together by a band spanning therebetween.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
September 20, 2000  
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Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0881.

DATED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,



Julie K. Moriss  
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JKM/jkw